

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending.

The Examiner and his Supervisor are thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the December 16, 2004 interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

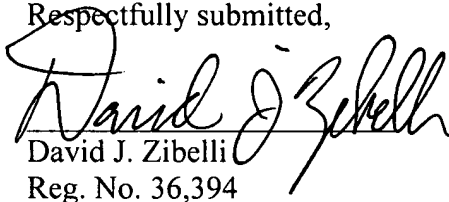
The office action rejects claims 1-14 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-14 of co-pending applications 10/614,859, 10/614,861, 10/614,862, 10/614,863 and 10/614,864. Because all of these applications are pending, a terminal disclaimer is not yet appropriate. It is submitted that if these applications become allowable, one should be allowed to issue without a terminal disclaimer, and it may then be appropriate for terminal disclaimers in the remaining applications.

The office action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 USC 102(e) over O'Brien (US Pat. 5,247,638). As discussed in the interview, O'Brien does not disclose a number of said plurality of paths linking said plurality of channel units to said cache unit equals a number of said plurality of channel units, as recited in claim 1. During the interview, it was pointed out that, as shown in Fig. 2, two lines connect the one cache 113 to element 110. The structure shown in Fig. 2 of O'Brien for connecting the cache and what might be considered a channel unit is much more complicated than in the present specification, as shown in elements 200-0 and 200-1. As further pointed out at the interview, even if the channel interface units 201-0 to 201-7 are considered to correspond to the recited channel units, O'Brien would still not disclose a number of said plurality of paths linking said plurality of channel units to said cache unit equals a number of said plurality of channel units as required by claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-13 are not anticipated by O'Brien.

For at least the above reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to
Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,


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